

Radio Script

BROADCAST TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 19, 1946, BY UPTON CLOSE, OVER A MUTUAL NETWORK, UNDER SPONSORSHIP OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL, INC.

It is good to be with you again, listeners to the American airwaves. Tell your friends that we plan soon to be heard by many more stations.

This is a meaningful moment for a voice of the Right to return to the air. Significant events of the week—events which mark trends—are: 1. The end of the first round in the American battle of wages and prices. For relief and variety, everybody should get his mind on production! 2. The trend toward showdown of world forces. Britain must come to complete, stark reliance on force in controlling Jews and Moslems and Hindus, or find and make the concessions to win them over. In Java, a Dutch statesman, while British soldiers watch, is proving out whether or not native Nationalists can be reconciled and still leave any place for European authority. 3. Here at home, the 14-year coalition of political interests which has backed our Administration, definitely breaks up, which means a new deal of the political cards for mid-term elections. Harry Truman, trying to go Left by dashes, is being pushed steadily to the Right. Truman must become the Right's man, or end up nobody's man.

Speaking of right—the aims and content and method of support of this program are RIGHT out in the open, and I shall insist that they continue to be right out in the open.

This program is dedicated not to forcing ideas down your throats, but simply to presenting ideas for you to think about and then to accept or to reject.

This is an American program, and will remain an American program. It stands for America and it emphasizes the things that made America great. It is for America first, it is for America last, and it is for America all the time. Never once will it disparage a good American or our Constitution and our method of representative government. It will ask continuance of opportunity for the individual to have ideas and to carry them out. This individualism made America strong and made it rich enough to incite every other nation on earth to ask our aid. There are some absurdities in the working out of these principles. Some individuals, corporations and political groups have taken advantage of this liberty—just as despots and hypocrites have taken advantage of Christianity. But that is no reason to belittle these basic principles put into action here by our nation's founders. These are principles so far above any on which any other government in society was ever set up, that a man who makes his living with words should consider it cheap indeed to mock at these principles.

This is the listeners' program—which means it is your program—sponsored by an educational organization in turn supported by those who approve of its objectives. This is a

program of ideas based upon most accurate information obtainable—always subject to correction and filling out. As a veteran newspaperman, I know only one abiding fear, and that is the fear of being inaccurate. In thirty years on three continents I have been sufficiently accurate in my judgment of trends to be called a prophet, although I seek no such title. Like all newsmen, I have tripped up on facts at times, and I have had to be wary of some very clever trippers seeking my downfall, but I can say to carpers that in thirty years I have never brought a libel suit upon a publisher, a sponsor, or a radio station, and that is a sort of record in itself.

I have a feeling, which you are not likely to dispute, that the conservative view on our national and international problems has had far less popular presentation in recent years than certain new and experimental views. I think that we need to consider that word "conserve". Let us use the word "conservative" not in a twisted and sneering sense, but in its true English language sense of "that which conserves". I want to conserve the opportunity of MYSELF and MY SONS and OTHER PEOPLE and their sons and daughters to develop new ideas and inventions, to start new businesses, to buy into and manage old businesses, to own homes and business properties and farms, to save money in life insurance and bank accounts, and to give our children a start, instead of throwing them out to rely upon a charity organization or a government bureau. These are the simple opportunities for which this nation was founded by men who turned their backs on the collectivism of Europe of 200 years ago.

I have been around this world a great deal and I have watched power-lovers use high sounding philosophies and programs of reform, in one country after another, to get themselves into power, and to make themselves masters over men's production and work life, and over men's very souls. I utterly repudiate, deny and challenge the suggestion that we in this nation of the United States of America are NOW in such a desperate case of emergency that we have got to overthrow or forget the basic principles upon which this nation was founded. Those principles of freedom made American society better for all men, including even the poor man, than any other country on earth ever was, or is today. This was and is true, even though more men got rich here than anywhere else in the world—something that demagogues like to harp on until they suddenly see a chance to get rich themselves, I've noticed!

Now I don't want to change all this for a frozen system in which my boys are not allowed to take jobs that are begging for their muscle and enterprise. I want them well protected by unions and well paid by management, but not

victimized by bosses of either who think more of estates in Miami than of the difficulties of struggling human beings. I don't want to scrap the stimulus of individual production for a frozen system of limited production on bureaucratic schedules, followed by the rationing of the resulting scarcity by a system of endless red tape which fills skyscrapers with bureaus whose occupants get the cream off the all-too-shrunken dish.

I believe that the enemy of prosperity is NOT capitalism in the sense of the enterprise of individuals and groups of individuals stimulated to think and work by profits. But I believe, rather, that the real enemy of capitalism and prosperity alike is monopoly. I believe that monopoly is the creator of scarcity. Therefore, this American program is going to oppose monopoly, which is the selfish creator of scarcity wherever it is found. Monopoly is going to be opposed, whether it is the monopoly of a corporation which crowds little businessmen to the wall, or the monopoly of a labor boss who will not let young veterans share the work, or the monopoly of the government which gets control of all wealth and all kinds of production and distribution, or the monopoly of a cartel or trust which sends our young men out to fight for its preserves or its patents or its markets! There is only one enemy of liberty: monopoly. There is only one enemy of prosperity in a capitalist society: monopoly. There is only one enemy of political freedom: state monopoly. The battle for human rights today is chiefly a battle against state monopoly.

The war is over and past elections are history and what is past is past and is useful neither for vindictiveness nor for vaunting, but only for the lessons to be learned. The war is over, and we have our critical faculties still, and again have our privilege of using them. Constructive criticism is opposition that knows what it does not want, and HELPS to FIND what it wants. If an American citizen, whether he be a laborer or capitalist or middle class man has not the right of opposition, then he has no true superiority over the totalitarian slave. It is quite necessary and quite proper for the large group of our citizens who believe in economic laws rather than artificial rationing, and who believe in individual industry and acumen, rather than regimentation of labor and production, to have ITS voice on our American air. It is quite proper for our citizens to insist upon the right to continue to own their homes and businesses and other small properties, and to have a voice that expresses THEIR point of view. Such citizens are still no doubt an absolute majority in our land.

We are no longer in the days of the Roosevelt New Deal. We are no longer in the days of a war alliance against Germany and Japan. Germany and Japan are no longer our hated and feared enemies—they are completely vanquished. We are in a completely new set of relations at home and in the outside world.

Our problem internationally is how to keep from again being caught in the middle in power and market rivalries of the world's other big nations.

Our problem at home is how to keep the American citizen best labelled as the consumer—which includes us all, for we all consume—from being caught in the middle of a power struggle between bosses. The key to our problem at home, it seems to me, is to get away from political feuds and arguments over ideologies—in fact, to forget theorism and take care of our veterans and start our factories and supply our housewives and farmers with goods. For in-

stance, a Los Angeles Post of the American Legion has appointed a practical committee of top-line practical citizens to study the red tape bound situation that keeps veterans and their families shelterless. Next Tuesday night I can give you their practical findings which should be good for the problem of housing everywhere. It is time to get away from theories and factional politics and get down to constructive operation of our own great resources. Let's take practical care of our America now, and some other time argue about who has been to blame in the past, or about the new theories of government and society promoted by soapboxers.

It is TIME, NOW, to begin constructive statesmanship in the world and production at home.

Neither of these things have we done since the war. Instead, our America has been held back awaiting the actions and reactions of you listeners and other citizens like you to three trends of thought.

One is the leftist trend, which wants to turn yet further Left toward more control of everything by bosses, some of the bosses to be elected openly, but most of them self-promoted or privately appointed: political bosses, official bureaucrats, labor bosses, brass hats to run industry. The leftist trend in the end must have its MILITARY brass hats, too, as even now in Russia. The leftist trend wants to turn yet further toward living by groups, and still further away from living and thinking as individuals. It seeks to do everything as members of one herd or another, thinking as the herd leader dictates, or persuades.

Another is the rightist trend, which wants to turn towards less officialdom, less government, less fathering and regulating by men who know best, or think they do—less dictating by political brass hats, military brass hats, labor bosses and money bosses. This is the trend toward the Right—toward more individual freedom of men and women to follow their own bents and take their own chances—to work and spend and think as they please.

Now, I have said there is a third group. It is that large, and undefined, and vague majority, which as yet simply does not know its Right from its Left, because it has not yet had these things called to its attention, and brought home to its own firesides. The fate of our nation—the sort of working conditions and playing conditions we shall have from now on—will depend upon which way this middle group tends; toward freedom—people doing what they WANT to do—or bossism—people doing what they are told.

And that explains the purpose of this program. It will deal with principles, not individuals. Individuals will be regarded merely as the players on the stage of life. The play's the thing!

Our program needs your help and your criticism. Let's clarify issues and bring out truth. I shall be criticized and opposed, since a movement against all the basic principles of our American government has grown very strong and cunning and unscrupulous. But it is showing its true color more every day.

Now let's take up the battle for America again; let's all go down the line together, bound to win because this government OF its people, BY its people and FOR its people must not perish from the earth!

And so I'll be with you next week at this hour, on this station. Good night!

HELP TO KEEP UPTON CLOSE ON THE AIR

Dear Fellow American:

The return of Upton Close to radio is made possible by the contributions of hundreds of Americans who wish to preserve in this Nation political and economic freedom--people who are striving to save the right to use private initiative and enjoy its fruits under the American constitutional form of government.

Contributors consist of corporations, businessmen, large and small, professional men and women, educators and other private citizens. Donations range from \$2,000 down to \$25, according to the ability of the donor to aid.

This procedure of soliciting funds was necessary as a first move toward getting an American voice of the Right back on the American networks. A drastic step was needed to overcome the lethargy of fear left after the "Fourth Term Election" and to shake our businessmen into action.

Now that we have succeeded thus far, let us persevere. We feel confident that, since the ice has been broken, corporations and individuals who believe in our precious American heritage will step forward with pride to support and sponsor this program. Make checks payable to "Upton Close Radio Fund" and address: "UPTON CLOSE, Detroit 31, Michigan". They will be immediately endorsed over to our good sponsor, the National Economic Council, Inc.

Please remember contributions may be corporate or personal.

NOTICE TO NON-SUBSCRIBERS

Owing to printing and mailing costs, only one sample copy of "CLOSER-UPS" and radio script can be sent to each person. When that person becomes a subscriber he or she will thereafter receive the radio script together with newsletter every week.